

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

Last call for CLIAs

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia is reminding agents that today is the last day they can submit nominations for the upcoming 2018 CLIA Awards.

Interested agents can nominate themselves or a colleague online across eleven categories, including a new "Cruise Champion" award recognising an agent who goes above and beyond.

"With more awards than ever open for peer and self-nomination, it has been great to see so many nominations pouring in," said CLIA Australasia & Asia MD Joel Katz - submit votes [HERE](#).

CLIA forecasts the cruising future

INSTAGRAMMABLE cruise travel, technology, Gen Z at sea and "conscious travel" are some of the key cruising trends predicted by Cruise Lines International Association for next year, with the peak body today releasing its *2019 State of the Cruise Industry Outlook* report.

CLIA Australasia MD Joel Katz said the report confirmed that cruise travel continues to grow and contribute to the overall global economy.

"This region has the highest market penetration in the world and we are predicting that CLIA travel agents can expect to see a rise in cruise sales in the next twelve months," he said.

Global passenger numbers are expected to increase by 6% next year to an estimated 30 million travellers, with the worldwide cruise fleet to grow to 272 CLIA-member vessels by Jun 2019.

The report is based on industry research, travel insights and input from CLIA-accredited travel consultants, and highlights the rise in onboard wellness as

travellers seek ways to rejuvenate from their busy lives.

Experiential travel is also a key trend, with bucket lists becoming more "goal-oriented" and cruise lines evolving to meet these demands.

On-board smart technology is on the rise, as is accessing destinations only able to be reached by cruise ship such as the Galapagos and Antarctica.



Female-centred cruising and solo travel are also increasing in popularity, the report found, while social media is a massive driver of interest as onboard connectivity improves allowing passengers to post their cruise experiences in real-time.

CLIA noted an increasing trend towards cruising outside of peak season, with the full outlook report available at cruising.org.au.



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CRUISE

WEEKLY

Friday 14th December 2018



Unpack the results of the latest cruise survey. Read more in the December issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read *travelBulletin*

Five on the Med

VIKING Cruises has released a range of new Mediterranean sailings in 2020/21.

The five additional itineraries include a 27-day Rome to Miami cruise calling into France, Spain and Portugal.

The trip is priced from \$10,395 per person and departs 06 Oct 2020.

Another highlight is a 26-day journey from San Juan to Venice, calling into Spain, France, Greece, and Croatia.

The cruise departs in Mar 2020 & leads in at \$11,295pp.

"Our brand new ocean cruise combos are the perfect way to experience this region," said Viking's Operations & Product Manager Lubica Sibikova.

"We strongly encourage guests to book now to avoid any disappointment as our Mediterranean itineraries...sell out so quickly," she added.

Adventurer hits the water



CORAL Expeditions recently launched its new *Coral Adventurer* vessel into the ocean during an official float out ceremony in Vietnam.

"Excitement was at a real high with *Coral Adventurer* now officially in the water and her delivery drawing nearer," said Coral Expeditions Group General Manager Mark Fifield.

"We were delighted to be joined by over 200 shipyard staff who celebrated this special moment with us, for whom the *Coral Adventurer* build has been a labour of love over the past 11 months," he added.

The next phase for *Adventurer* will be sea trials which will commence in Feb, followed by her official launch party in Singapore on 23 Apr.

The inaugural voyage will see the ship sail an 18-day Singapore



to Darwin "In the Trail of Tasman" itinerary, following in the path of pioneering explorer, Abel Tasman, and calling in at Pulau Satonda, Banda Neira, and Bawean Island along the way.

The 120-passenger *Coral Adventurer* features lightweight dual Xplorer expedition tenders that allow for fast passenger transit on shore excursions.

Pictured top: Paul Chacko, Tamara Sweeting, Alistair Burgoyne, Perry Wilkes, Frank Krone, Gary Wilson, Michael Marson, Jeff Gillie, Mark Fifield, Doug Parker, and Gary Wyn-Hum.

Wine cruise saving

EUROPEAN Waterways is marking the launch of its new wine cruises by offering a 10% discount on select departures in Mar, Apr and May 2019.

The cruise line's new wine appreciation cruises take place on board the 20-passenger *La Bella Vita* and navigates the Venetian Lagoon and waterways of the Po Valley, a region that is home to some of Italy's best wines.

"*La Bella Vita*...is ideal for small groups that wish to become more familiar with the wide range of fine wines produced in this important region of Italy," said European Waterways Managing Director Derek Banks.

The special offer is available for bookings made by 07 Jan 2019.

For more info, visit www.europeanwaterways.com.

Cunard WWII cruise

CUNARD is commemorating the 75th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy with a Special Transatlantic Crossing World War II cruise.

The sailing will take place aboard *Queen Mary 2* and include first-hand accounts from WWII veterans as they share their experiences of battle during the war.

Visit [HERE](#) for more info.

RSSC boosts land

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has launched two new shore excursion options.

Go Local Tours offers guests the chance to spend a day with families and see the destination through the eyes of a local.

The second is Regent Choice small group tours, adventures capped at 16 people.

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HAL opens up Rudi's



HOLLAND America Line (HAL) recently celebrated the opening of Rudi's Sel de Mer restaurant on board its newly received *Nieuw Statendam*.

An official ribbon-cutting ceremony was held and attended by the renowned chef himself (pictured right), who welcomed the first guests to the eatery bearing his name.

"Sel de Mer has garnered both guest and industry

acclaim, and we're excited to introduce the first restaurant to bear Master Chef Rudi Sodamin's name," said HAL President Orlando Ashford.

The restaurant serves classic French seafood dishes with a contemporary twist, with dishes including broiled lobster tail, whole dover sole meuniere, clams au beurre, duck Cassoulet and Salt Crust Baked Branzino.



Celestyal Cruises CEO Chris Theophilides.

CELESTYAL Cruises CEO Chris Theophilides has told Greek media his company will embark on a "significant extension" of its season in Greece in 2019.

The cruise line will extend its next season by eight weeks, with the goal of operating voyages year-round by 2021.

Two more seven-day itineraries will be added next year and over the next two years seven new ports will be added to its Eastern Mediterranean product.

"Celestyal is determined to continue its positive trend in 2019 and 2020, despite geopolitical events in the East Mediterranean

region," Theophilides said.

"In 2018 we met our targets in terms of passengers and the growth of the brand Celestyal Cruises and now we are really focused on 2019," he added.

Passenger numbers increased by 8% on 2017, with Celestyal Cruises laying down the target of 130,000 guests in 2019.

Another focus for Celestyal in 2019 will be opening new markets, with a slated growth target of 21%.

The plan will be to achieve this through optimising its distribution network and launching a new global marketing strategy.



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Royal smartens up

ROYAL Caribbean Cruise Lines has updated the dress policy on its website, stating that travellers will no longer be able to wear shorts or singlets/tank tops when dining at its ship's main dining rooms.

"Suits and ties, tuxedos, cocktail dresses or evening gowns" are recommended for formal nights, while "jeans, polos, sundresses and blouses" are acceptable for casual nights.

For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Oasis bites into Big Apple



ROYAL Caribbean International is gearing up for the arrival of its *Oasis of the Seas* into New York, as part of its 2020/21 deployment schedule.

The ship is one of seven in the fleet to undergo a US\$1b bow-to-stern "Royal Amplified" transformation in 2019, with her arrival into the Big Apple making her the first transformed ship to sail from Cape Liberty in New Jersey from May 2020.

Oasis passengers will have the chance to experience a series

of seven-night itineraries in the Caribbean, including a day on the cruise line's private island destination CocoCay.

The ship will also transport travellers on a number of short cruises north to New England and Canada.

Royal Caribbean International's "game changing" Royal Amplified modernisation program includes a wide range of "bold, new adventures designed to appeal to all ages".

Pictured: *Oasis of the Seas*.

Welcome AIDAnova

CARNIVAL Corporation has recently welcomed AIDA Cruises' new 6,600-passenger *AIDAnova* into its fleet at a celebration in Bremerhaven, Germany.

The new vessel features more than 20 different staterooms, 40 restaurants and bars and a theatre with a 360-degree stage.

"*AIDAnova* is a milestone for our company and the entire cruise industry," said Michael Thamm, group CEO of Carnival Corporation's Costa Group which includes AIDA Cruises, Costa Cruises & Carnival Asia.

"With Carnival Corporation pioneering LNG technology, we start a new era of environmentally friendly cruising," he said.

She has set sail to welcome inaugural guests at Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain, who are embarking on 19 Dec for a seven-day cruise around the Canary Islands and Madeira.



P&O Cruises' "Homegrown Hero" Campbell Remess, who has made more than 2,000 signature bears to bring hope to sick children, is flying high with his ocean bear on *Pacific Jewel* bound for Kangaroo Island from Melbourne.

Remess made the bear especially for this four night cruise with his family.

The two are **pictured** taking took a flight together on the P&O Edge flying fox that sweeps across *Pacific Jewel*'s top deck.



Polar bear cruise

WILD Earth Travel is set to voyage the Russian Arctic on board the Russian Icebreaker, *Kapitan Khlebnikov* in Jul 2019.

The expedition includes Wrangel Island "the polar bear capital" as well as Chukotka.

Wild Earth Travel's GM, Aaron Russ, will be leading two out of the three expeditions, saying the vessel has an "enviable record of polar expeditions".

[CLICK HERE](#) for more info.

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CLIA is looking for a Membership Administrator with an analytical mindset to join the small CLIA Australasia team in North Sydney to support our travel agent membership.

The ideal candidate will have a positive attitude, excellent customer service and communications skills, and be very familiar with membership and/or CRM systems. While cruise industry experience is not critical, database and excel experience is.



Please send your resume through to Joel Katz - jkatz@crusing.org

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